

1AP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 09 JUN 2006

Combined Form PTO/SB/08A&B				Complete if known Application Number 10582355 Confirmation Number Filing Date June 9, 2006 First Named Inventor Masayoshi ESASHI et al. Art Unit Examiner Name Attorney Docket Number 062648	
<u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</u> <u>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</u> (use as many sheets as necessary)					
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁴
		Country Code ²	Number ³	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	1	JP	11-48171	A	02-23-1999	Masaki ESASHI et al.	Abstract. Cited in the ISR
	2	JP	2002-143312	A	05-21-2002	Sumitomo Bakelite Co., Ltd.	Abstract. Cited in the ISR
	3	JP	3-86144	A	04-11-1991	Olympus Optical Co., Ltd.	Abstract. Cited in the ISR
	4	JP	5-31066	A	02-09-1993	Olympus Optical Co., Ltd.	Abstract. Cited in the ISR

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁴
	5	Hironobu TAKIZAWA et al.; "Development of a Microfine Active Bending Catheter Equipped with MIF Tactile Sensors", Olympus Optical Co., Ltd. Cited in the specification.	
	6	International Search Report of PCT/JP2004/018855, date of mailing April 19, 2005	

Examiner Signature	/Victoria Chen/	Date Considered	12/15/2009
--------------------	-----------------	-----------------	------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.